

# **OAK RIDGE FILTER TEST FACILITY (ORFTF)**

June 15, 2001

## **Background**

- ? Since the 1950's, DOE has performed 100 percent receipt inspection and efficiency-pressure drop testing on certain high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) ventilation filters for DOE nuclear facilities.
- ? During the past five years, the average failure rate is nearly 8 percent, indicating that vendor testing is not sufficient
- ? In the past, filter test facilities were operated at the Hanford, Oak Ridge, and Rocky Flats DOE sites.
- ? In 1996, the Hanford and Rocky Flats FTF were shut down due to low testing demand and the last remaining FTF is the ORFTF.

## **Importance to DOE**

- ? Testing ensures each filter meets the purchase specifications and allows for failed filters to be returned to vendor (under warranty) rather than disposed as low level waste, if in-place testing fails.
- ? HEPA filters are critical to the safety of workers in DOE nuclear facilities and to the public in the event of an accident in such a facility.
- ? Quality assurance testing ensures integrity of the last barrier of protection against the release of particulate radioactivity to the environment at DOE nuclear facilities.

## **Customers**

- ? Current customers include all DOE sites throughout the United States, e.g., Argonne National Laboratory, Westinghouse Savannah River, Pantex, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Rocky Flats, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Hanford, INEEL, X-10 and Y-12.
- ? Additional non-DOE customers have expressed interest in utilizing the ORFTF services.

## **Quality Products List (QPL)**

- ? In FY2000, the DOE decided to re-institute the Quality Products List (QPL) testing which includes three tests; rough handling, overpressure resistance and heated air outlined in the DOE and Military Standards.
- ? The DOE owns the QPL equipment and it presently is stored at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL).
- ? The DOE is planning for the shipment of the QPL equipment from LLNL to ETTP this fiscal year
- ? Equipment will be stored at ETTP awaiting DOE decision on program implementation
- ? Since the ORFTF must be moved to another location to accommodate the K-25 D&D activities, plans include co-location of the ORFTF and QPL equipment within the Oak Ridge Operations.